

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINORITY AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2419

ANSWERED ON:30.11.2016

Quota for Haj

Shanavas Shri M. I.

Will the Minister of MINORITY AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the number of pilgrims who performed haj during the current year under the Government Quota and the Private Tour Operator quota;
- (b) whether Saudi Arabia has reduced India's quota for the Haj this year than the last year;
- (c) if so, the details of the figures of corresponding years 2015 and 2016;
- (d) whether the reduction of quota for Haj pilgrims has been specifically for India; and
- (e) if so, whether the Government has made consultations or high level meetings to discuss the issue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE
MINISTRY OF MINORITY AFFAIRS
(SHRI MUKHTAR ABBAS NAQVI)

(a) 99,902 pilgrims performed Haj through the Haj Committee of India and 36,000 pilgrims performed Haj through the Private Tour Operators during Haj 2016.

(b) to (e) No, Madam. As per the bilateral Haj Agreement signed between Government of India and Saudi Arabia, the quota allocated for Haj 2016, as in 2015, was 1,36,020. From Haj-2013, Saudi Government has reduced the overall Haj quota for pilgrims from foreign countries, including from India, by 20% and for domestic pilgrims by 50% to facilitate the infra-structure work being carried out around the "Haram Sharif". The Government has been requesting the Government of Kingdom of Saudi Arabia for increasing the annual Haj quota for India. However, the annual Haj quota for India has remained unchanged since Haj 2013.
